

**SCHWEGMAN • LUNDBERG • WOESSNER**  
PATENT PROTECTION FOR HIGH TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 2938  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Telephone (612) 373-6900 Facsimile (612) 339-3061

January 12, 2011

Time: 12:20 PM  
(Minneapolis, Minn.)

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Jeffrey Swearingen  
Patent Examining Corps  
Facsimile Center  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Peter R. LealOUR REF: 2710.007US1FAX NUMBER 571-273-3921

\* Please deliver to Examiner Jeffrey Swearingen in Art Unit 2445. \*

Document(s) Transmitted: Supplemental Amendment (7 pgs.)Total pages of this transmission, including cover letter: 8

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In re. Patent Application of: Vipul Ved Prakash et al.Examiner: Jeffrey SwearingenSerial No.: 10/799,860Group Art Unit: 2445Filed: March 12, 2004Docket No.: 2710.007US1Title: Method and an apparatus to screen electronic communicationsPlease charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 1920743.By: Name: Peter R. Leal

USPTO Reg. No. 24,226

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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Date of Transmission

**S/N 10/799,860****PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Vipul Ved Prakash et al.

Examiner: Jeffrey Swearingen

Serial No.: 10/799,860

Group Art Unit: 2445

Filed: March 12, 2004

Docket No.: 2710.007US1

Customer No.: 21186

Confirmation No.: 1747

Title: Method and an apparatus to screen electronic communications

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**SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the telephone interview with Examiner Swearingen, please amend the application as follows:

## SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Serial Number: 10/799,860

Dkt: 2710.007US1

Filing Date: March 12, 2004

Title: Method and an apparatus to screen electronic communications

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

Using one or more computer processors, extracting URIs from electronic communication; and

analyzing the URIs extracted to determine whether the electronic communication is of a first predetermined category, said analyzing comprising generating one or more signatures using a length of the electronic communication and the URIs extracted.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein extracting the URIs comprises extracting at least one of a hostname, a domain name, a subsection of a domain relative link, and an Internet Protocol (IP) address from the electronic communication.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising performing a predetermined operation on the electronic communication if the electronic communication is determined to be of the first predetermined category.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing the URIs comprises: selecting one or more of the one or more signatures generated; and comparing the selected signatures against a plurality of predetermined signatures generated from a plurality of known electronic communications of the first predetermined category.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein generating the one or more signatures further comprises: computing a first hash based on the length of the electronic communication; computing a second hash based on the URL's extracted; and generating a signature by concatenating the first hash to the second hash.

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6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein generating the one or more signatures further comprises using at least one of the extracted URLs as at least one of the one or more signatures.
7. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein generating the one or more signatures further comprises generating the one or more signatures based on at least one of a protocol, a hostname, a domain name, a subsection of a domain relative link, and an Internet Protocol (IP) address from the electronic communication.
8. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising classifying the electronic communication to be of the first predetermined category if one of the selected signatures matches one of the plurality of predetermined signatures.
9. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the plurality of predetermined signatures is derived from a plurality of electronic documents reported via a collaborative submission mechanism.
10. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium that provides instructions that, if executed by a processor, will cause the processor to perform operations comprising:
- generating one or more signatures of electronic communication using a length of the electronic communication and URLs in the electronic communication; and
  - determining whether the electronic communication is of a first predetermined category using the one or more signatures generated.

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11. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein determining whether the electronic communication is of the first predetermined category comprises:

selecting one or more of the one or more signatures generated based on a plurality of predetermined criteria;

comparing the selected signatures against a plurality of predetermined signatures; and

classifying the electronic communication to be of the first predetermined category if one of the selected signatures matches one of the plurality of predetermined signatures.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 11, wherein selecting one or more of the one or more signatures generated comprises selecting a signature if the signature represents a domain that was registered within a predetermined period of time.

13. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 11, wherein selecting one or more of the one or more signatures generated comprises selecting signatures representing one or more of a protocol, a hostname, a domain name, and a subsection of a domain relative link having a predetermined string of letters.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the operations further comprise extracting the URLs from the electronic communication.

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15. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:
- a plurality of databases to store a plurality of predetermined signatures of a plurality of known electronic communications of a first predetermined category; and
  - a server, coupled to the plurality of databases, including:
    - a memory device to store a plurality of instructions; and
    - a processor, coupled to the memory device, to retrieve the plurality of instructions from the memory device and to perform operations in response to the plurality of instructions, the operations comprising:
      - extracting URLs from electronic communication generating one or more signatures using a length of the electronic communication and the URLs extracted; and
      - comparing one or more of the one or more signatures generated against the plurality of predetermined signatures stored in the plurality of databases to determine whether the electronic communication is of the first predetermined category.
16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the URLs comprises at least one of a hostname, a domain name, a subsection of a domain relative link, and an Internet Protocol (IP) address.
17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the operations further comprise selecting the one or more of the plurality of signatures based on a plurality of predetermined criteria.
18. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the operations further comprise performing a predetermined operation on the electronic communication if the electronic communication is determined to be of the first predetermined category.
19. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a database, coupled to the server, to store a plurality of reports from which the plurality of predetermined signatures are generated.

**SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT**

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20. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the plurality of databases are in a remote location from the server.

## SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

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REMARKS

This paper is submitted pursuant to a telephone interview initiated by the Examiner.

Claims 1 and 10 are amended, no claims are canceled, and no claims are added. As a result, claims 1-20 remain pending in this application.

Interview Summary

Applicant thanks Examiner Jeffrey Swearingen for the courtesy of a telephone interview on January 5, 2011 with Applicant's representative Peter R. Leal.

The Examiner suggested that Applicants amend claims 1 and 10 to bring them into consonance with *In re Bilski* and *In re Nuijten*, respectively.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to bring it into consonance with *In re Bilski*.

Claim 10 has been amended to bring it into consonance with *In re Nuijten*.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (530) 889-2402 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A.  
P.O. Box 2938  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0938  
(530) 889-2402

Date JANUARY 12, 2011

By

  
Peter R. Leal

Reg. No. 24,226

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed via FAX, to number 571-273-3921, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 12 day of January, 2011.

John D. Gustav-Wrathall

Name

  
Signature